ASEB hat been accordingly advised to execute necessary gas supply and transportation agreement with the concerned parties.

(c) The schedule of project construction/commissioning could only be firmed up after the bids are evaluated and order is placed on a particular company for execution of the project.

Power Scenario in the Country

2806. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to improve the present power scenario in the country;

(b) whether any strategy has been adopted therefor;

(c) if so, the year by which power is expected to be available adequately for domestic consumption, for agriculture and Industry;

(d) the fund required for the same;

(e) the resources arranged accordingly; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (f) It has been estimated in the 16th Electric Power Survey by the Central Electricity Authority that to meet the power demand in the country by 2012, the energy requirement would be 975222 MU and the peak demand would be of the order of 157107 MW. To meet this demand, an additional capacity of approximately 1,00,000 MW needs to be set up by the end of 2012. A tentative Est of projects having a total capacity of about 1,06,000 MW has been drawn up. The requirement of resources for adding an incremental capacity of 1,00,000 MW has been estimated at about Rs. 8,00,000 crore. This is inclusive of associated transmission and distribution facilities.

The funds required for Central Sector would be raised through internal resources including retained earnings, issue of bonds, etc.

Additionally resources would be tied up by way of foreign assistance from bilateral/multilateral institutions like World Bank, ADB, JBIC etc. The funds required for the State Sector would be obtained through internal resources of SEBs/utilities, Annual Plan allocations, loans from Indian Financial Institutions and bilateral/ multilateral assistance. The Private sector would fund their projects through their own equity, retained earnings and borrowings from financial institutions, apart from attracting foreign direct investment into the sector.

The Government is closely monitoring the ongoing projects through the Empowered Committee and various Task Forces which have been set up for this purpose. For private sector projects, the Government has constituted a Crisis Resolution Group to resolve the 'last mile* problems. To improve availability of power and generation capacity and to make optimal use of the available power resources in the country, the following measures have been taken:

(i) Expeditious implementation of capacity addition programme.

(ii) Liberalisation of investment procedures.

(iii) Promotion of measures for demand side management.

(iv) Renovation and modernisation of existing old generating units.

(v) Disbursement of loans by Power Finance Corporation for improving operation and maintenance of thermal power stations under the Accelerated Generation and Supply Programme (AG&SP).

(vi) Promotion of inter-state and inter-regional power transfers.

(vii) Augmentation of transmission, transformation capacity in the power system and installation of shunt capacitors to improve the voltage.

(viii) Reduction of transmission and distribution losses.

For strengthening the sub-transmission and distribution systems and also for assisting Renovation and Modernisation Programmes, the Government has initiated the Accelerated Power Development

Programme (APDP) this year with a budgetary outlay of Rs. 1000 crore.

The Government has also initiated and evoked a national consensus on power sector reforms to improve the financial health of the power utilities in the State. A Conference of Chief Ministers and State Power Ministers on Power Sector reforms was held is New Delhi on 3rd March 2001 which resolved to accelerate reforms and to restore the financial health of the State power sector utilities.

Survey on potential of hydro power In the Country

2807. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority has completed the preliminary survey on the hydro power potential in the country;

(b) if so, the estimated potential of hydro power in the country;

(c) whether Government proposes to lay emphasis on increasing generation of hydro power during Ninth Plan;

(d) if so, the achievement made thereon as on date;

(e) the target set for the Ninth Plan; and

(0 the efforts made to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (f) As per studies carried out by the Central Electricity Authority during 1978—87, the total economically exploitable hydro potential of major/medium schemes in the country was assessed around 84044 MW at 60% load factor [corresponding to probable installed capacity of 150,000 MW]. As on 1.2.2001, hydro-potential of 13942.60 MW has been developed and 5342.38 MW is under development at 60% load factor.

The Government had announced a Policy on hydro power development in August 1998 with the objective of accelerating the pace of hydro power development in the country. During the last three years, five new hydro-electric projects have been sanctioned